

20011211.ba v03_n266.bam.20011211

>From ???@??? Tue Dec 11 21:30:39 2001 -0600
Message-Id: <200112120330.fBC3UF0w002363@sco.theporch.com>
Date: Tue, 11 Dec 2001 21:29:39 CST
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 3266

BOATANCHORS Digest 3266

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Re: whazzit receiver (pictures) anyone recognize?
by "moe" <moe@email.msn.com>
- 2) RE: 390A - What do I do now?
by Morris Odell <Morris0@vifp.monash.edu.au>
- 3) Re: Field Day - 1930's style
by w8au@sssnet.com
- 4) RE: Harris RF-551A
by "WPUL1130" <res00goy@gte.net>
- 5) Re: 390A - What do I do now?
by Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 6) Re: Field Day - 1930's style
by "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
- 7) Re: Field Day - 1930's style
by "Marty's Refl. Drop" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
- 8) Re: Field Day - 1930's style
by "Marty's Refl. Drop" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
- 9) Speaker Matching w/ Line Transformers
by "Shirli Sieb" <sieb@sympatico.ca>
- 10) 1936 GFI's
by ejones@hiwaay.net
- 11) Re: 1936 GFI's
by JACK M IVERSON <jackiv@juno.com>
- 12) R-390A resistor list?
by k2kl <k2kl@optonline.net>
- 13) 20 M QSO
by john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
- 14) Re: Field Day - 1930's style
by "David L. Thompson" <thompson@mindspring.com>
- 15) Re: Field Day - 1930's style
by john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
- 16) [Fwd: 1936 GFI's]
by "Arthur I. Larky" <ail0@lehigh.edu>
- 17) Re: ASB-4 ?
by William Donzelli <aw288@osfn.org>
- 18) Doerle and regens.

by Kargokult@aol.com
19) CW Crystals?
by W7QH0@aol.com

Message-ID: <001d01c18110\$91c2ff20\$dbc6173f@JMORRIS2K>
From: "moe" <moe@email.msn.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: whazzit receiver (pictures) anyone recognize?
Date: Sun, 9 Dec 2001 19:21:07 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="-----_NextPart_000_0019_01C180E6.A708A6C0"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----_NextPart_000_0019_01C180E6.A708A6C0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Looks like my RB0-2, Scott morale reciever. That's quite some funky =
front panel, though.
It's a really nice reveiver with great audio. Keeps my morale up.

John-WB0RLD

----- Original Message -----=20
From: john=20
To: Old Tube Radios=20
Sent: Sunday, December 09, 2001 8:06 PM
Subject: whazzit receiver (pictures) anyone recognize?

Good lord willing (and UPS too) and the creek dont rise,
I'll have this in a couple days.=20

pics:
<http://www.old-radios.com/i-1.jpg>
<http://www.old-radios.com/i-2.jpg>

Certainly has RCA knobs. The bolted on tuning cap covers
reminds me of AR88 construction. Is this some sort of
RCA Entertainment receiver, w/ shortwave?

Whazzit?
John=20

--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D
John Brewer - WB50AU/4
AMI #24
Clayton NC=20
johnmb@nc.rr.com
--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D--3D

-----=_NextPart_000_0019_01C180E6.A708A6C0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

* * * * *
* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- *
* This post contains a forbidden message format *
* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) *
* Mail Lists at theporch.com only accept PLAIN TEXT *
* If your postings display this message your mail program *
* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting *
* * * * *

-----=_NextPart_000_0019_01C180E6.A708A6C0--

Message-ID:
<07A064EA6042D4118A62009027F70E77181D11@nt_exchange.vifp.monash.edu.au>
From: Morris Odell <MorrisO@vifp.monash.edu.au>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: 390A - What do I do now?
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 14:58:50 +1100
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Hi all,

I really enjoyed the replies and debate that ensued from posting about the R390A and the GFI breaker. Thanks to all those who replied, too many to answer individually.

Most people suggested removing or bypassing the line filter as they are not really necessary in the domestic environment. An alternative is the more modern computer type filter, usually with built in IEC connectors. Nobody here in VK suggested getting rid of the breaker although there are some situations such as servicing switch mode power supplies where they are a

hindrance. I would suggest using an isolating transformer and proper grounding for those.

My professional activities here at the forensic institute include dealing with fatal electrocutions and I have certainly seen cases of electronics hobbyists who have been killed in circumstances where a GFI may have saved them. Of course though, we have no way of knowing how many lives really are saved by these devices as near misses go unreported and uninvestigated. I read the arguments against them with a lot of interest but can't really agree. We are not really dealing with an uninformed population here. I don't think the use of such a breaker breeds a false sense of security. Speaking for myself, I ALWAYS use a portable GFI cord when I'm working with power tools but it certainly hasn't prompted me to do things with them that are downright dangerous that I wouldn't have done anyway. Don Davis, who said that if the equipment trips the breaker then you should fix the equipment, was right on the money.

Of course if you have enough knowledge to work on older gear (and to be reading this forum for that matter) you will appreciate that a GFI will not protect against shocks from the secondary side of a power transformer such as B+ etc.....

My breaker is rated to trip in 100mS at 30 mA unbalance. I found it would trip with 10K from L to E (24 mA rms here in Australia with 240 volt mains) but not 22K (11mA). The R390A mains filter did not show any ohmic leakage on megger testing at 500 volts but measures 0.18 uF on a bridge from each of L and N to frame. This is equivalent to about 13.5 mA at 240 volts 50 Hz. I replaced the filter with a modern computer type whose label showed a 0.01 between L and N and 0.0022 between each of L and N and ground (0.16 mA). I had to open out the hole on back of the receiver to fit it but am quite unapologetic about that.

The other piece of gear that triggered the breaker was quite an eye opener. It was something I had homebrewed into the case of an old Control Data printer power supply - these were distributed in large numbers by the local ham disposals division about 20 years ago. It has a nice mains breaker and a pair of Cornell Dubilier "Radio interference filters" in the L and N lines. I thought I was doing the right thing by keeping them there but they measure a whopping 1 uF! That's a current of 75 mA - minor power factor correction as Norm described :-)

Now I KNOW that these leakage currents shouldn't be a problem with proper grounding and insulation practice but that's not why I advocate GFIs - it's because of Murphy's law. Despite the best intentions, something can always go wrong. You can't be too careful. I'm the first one to admit I've had some surprises and a few tingles over the years. It's better to hold your pants up with both belt & braces IMHO.

After these mods, none of my boatanchors trip the breaker. I would probably need nearly 100 boatanchors with computer filters as described above all plugged in at once to accumulate enough capacitive current for that to happen. I should be so lucky! :-)

73 de Morris VK3DOC

From: w8au@sssnnet.com
Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20011209232913.009a83c0@mail.sssnet.com>
Date: Sun, 09 Dec 2001 23:30:50 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Field Day - 1930's style
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 08:21 PM 12/09/2001 -0600, Bob, W9RAN wrote:
> The transmitter appears to be homebrew, but
> looks plenty capable of loading down whatever they used as a generator!

Bob:
The xmtr looks to be an RCA ACT-40 from 1936. Used a pair of 801's in Push-pull.
Output was rated at 40 watts on 160 thru 20 meters.
Plug-in coils were used... three for each band.
The top panel is the antenna tuner with RF ammeter.
Center Panel is Osc-buff-Final amp. Xtal controlled.
Bottom Panel is Power supply/Modulator.

Had one of these up until about 7 years ago.
Used it in annual AWA old-time xmtr qso parties..
Wish I still had it.

73,
Perry w8au

Message-ID: <004101c18135\$95be48d0\$02383d04@bartow9bkmruph>
From: "WPUL1130" <res00goy@gte.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: Harris RF-551A
Date: Sun, 9 Dec 2001 20:46:08 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello All: I am looking the following: RF-551A Ancillary
Kit. Assy Nr: 905-0041 I have had my RF-551A almost two years and have been
able to power it up. Many
Thanks
Lloyd Scott
Florida

Date: Sun, 09 Dec 2001 21:27:11 -0800
From: Arden Allen <gumbear@pacbell.net>
Subject: Re: 390A - What do I do now?
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <0G0400G284H0SD@mta5.snfc21.pbi.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi Morris;

>I read the arguments against them with a lot of interest but
> can't really
> agree. We are not really dealing with an uninformed population here. I
> don't
> think the use of such a breaker breeds a false sense of security.
Speaking
> for myself, I ALWAYS use a portable GFI cord when I'm working with power
> tools but it certainly hasn't prompted me to do things with them that are
> downright dangerous that I wouldn't have done anyway. Don Davis, who said
> that if the equipment trips the breaker then you should fix the
equipment,
> was right on the money.

Except the arguement so far has overlooked one important point: My
lab/radio
shack currently has 18 (I just counted them) pieces of equipment plugged in
and ALL of them have line bypass filters. Assuming they all have .01uF
bypass capacitors (some less, some more capacitance I know) the grand total
is .18 uF. What an irony!

Well, with only 120 volts here and only 10 more Hertz I guess a 24 mA GFCI
wouldn't trip. But for me, I'll do without the GFCI because my equipment
quality control has always included making sure there is a reliable earth
ground on each instrument. My frequently used outlets are hospital grade
and no one else futzes with my stuff. BTW, I bypssed the GFCI in my
bathroom-kitchen circuit because it created RFI. I took it apart to see
what made it tick and lost the ticks. Too bad. I'm living on borrowed
time I guess.....!!

I make light of it in jest. The GFCI is an indispensable safety device and should be used wherever the risk justifies it.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

Message-Id: <5.1.0.14.2.20011210062956.00aded@po.muohio.edu>

Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 06:32:55 -0500

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

From: "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>

Subject: Re: Field Day - 1930's style

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: multipart/alternative;

boundary="=====_317597701==_ .ALT"

--=====_317597701==_ .ALT

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Great photo, Bob! My earliest Field Days were of the DX-100, SX-99 variety. I ought to do it again one of these days.

73,

Jim W8ZR

>Found this photo in the basement of a 90 year old ham.

>

><http://users.mwci.net/~ranickel/thirtiesfieldday.jpg>

--=====_317597701==_ .ALT

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

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* * * * *
*      ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED---      *
*      This post contains a forbidden message format      *
*      (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) *
*      Mail Lists at theporch.com only accept PLAIN TEXT      *
*      If your postings display this message your mail program *
*      is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting *
* * * * *
```

--=====_317597701==_ .ALT--

Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 07:12:01 -0500 (EST)

From: "Marty's Refl. Drop" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>

Message-Id: <200112101212.HAA28323@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: w2cqhq@astti.net
Subject: Re: Field Day - 1930's style

That Perry-spotted RCA tx a beaut!

I'm writing in for the RX... a RME69 w. original "reverse corner" speaker encl. Came out in '36... W8KGI met designer @ Dayton years back.

Still use RME in AWA events w. Stancor 69. The Freudian twins.

Just finished AWA '29 TX party using p-p 10s (801s) in a Hartley w. Nat'l FBX rx. Lotta left coast contacts on gray-line w. ~10w to ant. 'Way more pleasing than programming a matchbook-size 3-band handheld.

But the hobby's changed & I'm a curmudgeon left-over. & my idea of programming is fortran.

Back to foto... just wonderful

Marty

Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 07:16:26 -0500 (EST)
From: "Marty's Refl. Drop" <polepeeg@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
Message-Id: <200112101216.HAA28592@aa4rm.ba-watch.org>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Field Day - 1930's style

Oh yezzz....

1936 was the financial pits. & the TX & RX pictured cost about the same as a new Pontiac.

Whoever owned the gear, & the barbed-wire coral, sold out before black thursday in '29.

Timing is everything

From: "Shirli Sieb" <sieb@sympatico.ca>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Speaker Matching w/ Line Transformers
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 11:58:24 -0500
Message-ID: <LOBBJHOL00HLIPLONIAFAEAEKEKAA.sieb@sympatico.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

More on using 70 volt transformers to match impedances. Here is a list of watts taps verses impedance;

.31watts	14000	ohms
.625w	7000	ohms
1.25 watts	4000	ohms
2.5 w	2000	ohms
5 watts	1000	ohms
10 w	500	ohms
12 watts	360	ohms
24 watts	180	ohms
40 watts	110	ohms

Here is the chart for 25 volt speaker transformers:

.31 watts	1680	ohms
.625 watts	840	ohms
1.25 watts	440	ohms
2.5 watts	220	ohms
5 watts	120	ohms

Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 13:12:46 -0600 (CST)
Message-Id: <v03007802b83a4365e964@[216.180.66.231]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: ejones@hiwaay.net
Subject: 1936 GFI's

de N4TGC Eric

Which is about how many I feel like I've installed by now ... as an electrician, I am required by law to put GFI's (usually outlets, as they're significantly cheaper than breakers) in kitchens, bathrooms, and outdoors. I string as many reg'lar outlets "downstream" as I can, as GFI's are \$8, while duplex's are 50¢=A2, plus, GFI's don't fare well outside in the humid climate here, and aren't easily fitted into bricked-in handy-boxes anyway.

According to what I've read, the 15ma required to trip a GFI is enough to lock your heart up, if it gets cross-ways just wrong. I use rubber soles, wooden ladders, and tap the "dead" lead with my finger before grabbing it, just to be sure, and I still got buzzed twice by the ground or neutral, on this new-construction I'm just now finishing up ... this was the trap: the 220 outlet on the temp-pole ISN'T GFI, and I was feeding the house via an

Edison hookup!

The discussion about power factor is instructive, but as my ancient Filter Queen vacuum cleaner taught me, a pair of .25 mifunes to ground can give quite a jolt when you're standing on concrete, and using the original two-wire cord! I just removed them, and have had no more problems. I never asked the city what they thought about the resultant power factor losses ...(on my Rainbow vacuum, which had a 17 ga.! cord, I replaced it with a 25' 14ga. extension cord, with the end whacked off and direct-wired. Much cheaper than a replacement cord, if you don't mind orange ...)

On the subject of the AWA rigs, I just got the Lindsay reprint of "cousin" Jones' 1936 Radio Handbook, and it has an ad for the RME-69, which implies it was new that year. And as someone commented, you'd have to be well-heeled on all four corners to afford most of the stuff ad'd therein =2E.. not that later decades were much better! If it hadn't been for mil-surp, there'd be a lot fewer Hams today, including myself!

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 14:58:28 -0600
Subject: Re: 1936 GFI's
Message-ID: <20011210.145830.-277443.2.jackiv@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
From: JACK M IVERSON <jackiv@juno.com>

eric, what happened to the 5ma pass, 10 ma trip sspec?? Prof Dalziel out on the left coast did quite a study some years ago, from that came the gfi as we know or should know it.

jack jackiv@juno.com

Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 17:25:48 -0500
From: k2kl <k2kl@optonline.net>
Subject: R-390A resistor list?
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <4.3.2.7.2.20011210171230.00b512c0@mail-hub.optonline.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Greetings glow bottle gang!

I know there is a list on the web of all the capacitors in the R-390A,
(very helpful!)
Anybody have one listing all the resistors as well? I know I could create
one from the parts list but maybe someone's already done that?

I'm purchasing parts for my winter restoration projects and I want to make
sure I have most everything before I start.... had to stop work on my
Lafayette HA-410 twice now because of missing caps and resistors, I want to
stock up!

Thanks

73.....Glenn K2KL

Message-Id: <3.0.3.32.20011210172412.015ea7b8@pop-server.nc.rr.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 17:24:12 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
Subject: 20 M QSO
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Had today off, and after doing some Christmas shopping, I fired
up the rig on 20 and called CQ. Someone came back and we chatted a bit. He
then said that he was looking for a good strong station to check his
frequency with, and asked me whether or not I was reading 14265.4 Mhz on my
rig. I told him I was using a 1953 CE20A with a converted ARC-5 vfo, and I
was likely not the station he was looking for, for decimal points of
megacycles frequency
measurements! He had a good laugh, and we chatted on for about 20 minutes.
The WRL LA1 linear was doing a good job on short skip today.

He did observe that in the whole time we were on, he only had
to tweak the RIT at his end a bit twice. Old ARC5's are not too shabby
when they're warmed up!

As far as I can tell, the only reason you need that kind of accuracy
is because someone else has it!

73 and Happy Holidays
John
WB50AU

Message-ID: <001c01c181ce\$4d1432e0\$6ab65b40@default>
From: "David L. Thompson" <thompson@mindspring.com>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Field Day - 1930's style
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 17:59:13 -0500

My first Field day was 1957. On 10 and 40/80 we used a DX100/NC300. The antenna on 10 was a ground plane. On 15 we had a Gonset G66/G77 pair. I don't remember the other gear. The 15 meter beam was up over 90 feet on an old oil well derrick. Those Gonset twins really played!

I remember calling CQ on 10 then all of a sudden a W8 came back very loud. We never did figure out why 15 worked so well with low power where 10 only netted a handful of contacts with the DX100...guess it was the antenna!

I agree with Jim W8ZR it would be fun to do it again.

73 Dave K4JRB

Message-Id: <3.0.3.32.20011210184840.016364d4@pop-server.nc.rr.com>
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 18:48:40 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
Subject: Re: Field Day - 1930's style
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

NA4G and his FD gang always trot out some monstrous boatanchor for field day. I believe the last one I saw was some huge rack mounted Navy surplus piece. Somewhere he's got some great pics of the operation.

We are a wonderfully tweaked bunch!
John

At 05:59 PM 12/10/01 -0500, David L. Thompson wrote:
>My first Field day was 1957. On 10 and 40/80 we used a DX100/NC300. The
>antenna on 10 was a ground plane. On 15 we had a Gonset G66/G77 pair. I
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>old oil well derrick. Those Gonset twins really played!
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>netted a handful of contacts with the DX100...guess it was the antenna!
>
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>

>73 Dave K4JRB

>

>

Message-ID: <3C156374.28924EE3@lehigh.edu>
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 20:37:56 -0500
From: "Arthur I. Larky" <ail0@lehigh.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: [Fwd: 1936 GFI's]
Content-Type: multipart/mixed;
boundary="-----0A7FFA73B9B8B72F682D6287"

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----0A7FFA73B9B8B72F682D6287
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----0A7FFA73B9B8B72F682D6287
Content-Type: message/rfc822
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
Content-Disposition: inline

X-Mozilla-Status2: 00000000
Message-ID: <3C15631C.1C6CC62D@lehigh.edu>
Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 20:36:29 -0500
From: "Arthur I. Larky" <ail0@lehigh.edu>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.73 [en]C-CCK-MCD (Win95; U)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: ejones@hiwaay.net
Subject: Re: 1936 GFI's
References: <v03007802b83a4365e964@[216.180.66.231]>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

ejones@hiwaay.net wrote:

> de N4TGC Eric

>

> Which is about how many I feel like I've installed by now ... as an
> electrician, I am required by law to put GFI's (usually outlets, as they're
> significantly cheaper than breakers) in kitchens, bathrooms, and outdoors.

> I string as many reg'lar outlets "downstream" as I can, as GFI's are \$8,
> while duplex's are 50¢, plus, GFI's don't fare well outside in the humid
> climate here, and aren't easily fitted into bricked-in handy-boxes anyway.
>
> According to what I've read, the 15ma required to trip a GFI is enough to
> lock your heart up, if it gets cross-ways just wrong. I use rubber soles,
> wooden ladders, and tap the "dead" lead with my finger before grabbing it,
> just to be sure, and I still got buzzed twice by the ground or neutral, on
> this new-construction I'm just now finishing up ... this was the trap: the
> 220 outlet on the temp-pole ISN'T GFI, and I was feeding the house via an
> Edison hookup!

An electrician friend and I were putting GFI's into my basement. After he wired them in, he checked them with some thing that told him that they were wired in wrong. Upon checking, he found out that the lines went into the GFI in right-side, left-side form and came out in left-side, right-side form. Thus he was wiring the subsequent sockets neutral-side hot! Last time he used the same brand of GFI's they did not swap the sides. We were glad he checked the installation.

Moral - check everything twice.

Art K3HBA

-----0A7FFA73B9B8B72F682D6287--

Date: Mon, 10 Dec 2001 20:48:07 -0500 (EST)
From: William Donzelli <aw288@osfn.org>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: ASB-4 ?
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.1011210203310.6275D-1000000@osfn.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

> What the gen on a ASB-4 rx ?
>
> freq, use etc.

Early US Navy radar. The ASB series (-4s are RCA made) were production versions of the NRL's XAT, using many ideas from early British sets. I think they worked right around 450 MHz. The transmitters use triodes, not magnetrons.

Pretty basic as far as radars go - each wing of the plane was fitted with an antenna, alternately switched so the radar video would alternately show the two lobes, offset by a tiny amount. On the indicator, this alternately lobing video could be used to get a crude bearing on a target.

ASBs were mostly fitted to TBMs and the like. Often in pictures of TBMs, the antennae can be seen, although some of these may be AN/APG-4s (an odd fire control radar for torpedo control - they use the same antenna).

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From: Kargokult@aol.com
Message-ID: <146.61e548e.29472577@aol.com>
Date: Tue, 11 Dec 2001 04:01:43 EST
Subject: Doerle and regens.
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

After reading a number of Shortwave Craft magazines, i've come to know Walter C. Doerle a little better. I see him as not an innovator so much as one who just took a simple, established 2-triode regenerative circuit, as seen a decade earlier, in the early 1920s, as in the Crosley 51 and others, and simply applied it to shortwaves, while paying attention to care in construction. His early articles seem to have proved to thousands of cash-strapped radio enthusiasts in those Depression years that they could engage in exploring a fascinating new communications technology and broaden their horizons while armchair travelling the world, and this for an affordable price, particularly when they built their "Doerle" receiver from scrounged parts. His later articles all were based on the same 2-triode circuit, while others were already moving on with more sophisticated designs using separate regenerator tubes, pentodes, and dual-section tubes. After 1936, he seems to have dropped off the map. I sure would like to know more about him.

I also learned a little more about the reasons for a separate regenerator tube: You don't have any problem with fringe howl, or growling near oscillation, as the detector tube just does detection, as in grid leak detection. Also, the detector can run at maximum plate voltage, it's operating dc levels do not have to be retarded to throttle down regeneration. Of course, a well designed regen single stage detector can pretty much get around these problems, i think: you use a resistive load, not inductive, in the plate, and you use a potentiometer across the tickler, with the tap going to the plate, as a way of controlling regeneration without reactive effects or varying the screen grid or plate voltage. A couple of regen circuits i looked at, used a crystal diode before the signal grid, to boost the rectification effectiveness over that of the grid leak detector alone. That is more common today in transistor regenerator circuits, i mean the additional

diode detector.

Another interesting thing i read was about a Midwest Radio Co. console radio of 1937 that had a "power saving switch". The article said you could do this because the "new" 6 volt tubes were developed with car radios in mind, and were made to deal with varying battery supply voltages from 5 - 8 volts as the battery charge state varied. The article stated that the tubes could even operate down to 1/2 rated filament voltage. I had never read this before, altho i have seen a Popular Science wartime "Emergency Receiver" circuit that used 2, six-volt tubes, 6C6s i think, with around 3.9 volts on the filaments (and something like 9 or 12 volts on the plate, in a "space charge" circuit. The Midwest console, at lowest power position, ran 3.9 volts on the 6 volt tubes. The article said this still allowed you to pick up the stronger stations, and that the background sounded extraordinarily quiet. This made me suspect that maybe the lore i have heard in the past, even before the excellent "Running Without Recapping" by Dave Stinson, when it bragged about "lower noise" was really talking about reduced sensitivity! Oh, also interesting, the article states that these tubes were also designed with "filament voltage volume control" in mind. I never have seen that! Oh, also BTW, an Aurora Plastics Co. 1-tube regenerative receiver kit, controls the regeneration by controlling the filament current, this on a 1.5 volt tube, the instructions say it operates down to 1 volt. Plate voltage is something like 15 volts.

Okay, a little long, but maybe another soul or two is interested in this topic.

Hue Miller

From: W7QHO@aol.com
Message-ID: <a6.1e47605a.294828e7@aol.com>
Date: Tue, 11 Dec 2001 22:28:39 EST
Subject: CW Crystals?
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

All,

I know the original owner of CW Xtals sold out just before he died. As I seem to remember, the new owner moved the equipment and stocks to somewhere in the Southwest and advertised for a short period before he also died. Does anyone know where the equipment and stocks are now and what is the status of the business, i.e., tied up in probate, up for sale, in a landfill somewhere, or whatever?

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End of BOATANCHORS Digest 3266
